

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-02

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PO

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

1. VIKING: NEWSPLAY ON VIKING DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED TO BE EXTENSIVE, LAUDATORY AND LARGELY RESTRICTED TO SCIENTIFIC DETAILS RATHER THAN POLITICAL INTERPRETATION. JULY 29 ISSUE OF HIGHLY-POLITICIZED, LEFT-WING "OPCAO" MAGAZINE LIKENED VIKING TO AN "ICARUS...THAT REACHED HIS GOAL", AND IDENTIFIED AS THE "FUNDAMENTAL" ASPECT OF THE MISSION THE FACT THAT "SPACE VENTURES, INDEPENDENTLY OF THEIR LONG-RANGE RESULTS, ARE THE GREATEST STIMULI FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND MODERN TECHNOLOGY." AND, "OPCAO" ADDED, "THIS DEVELOPMENT ALREADY BENEFITS ALL HUMANITY. IF ONLY FOR THIS, WE SOULD BE GRATEFUL TO ICARUS".

2. OLYMPICS: THAT POLITICALLY-INSPIRED MANEUVERS BY THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGING THE INTEGRITY OF THE OLYMPICS SEEMS TO BE DAWNING ON -- OR AT LEAST CONFUSING -- EVEN MARXIST SPORTS WRITERS. AN EXAMPLE IS "OPCAO" CONTRIBUTOR MANUEL SERGIO WHO WROTE: "THE OLYMPIC GAMES ... HAVE BECOME A FASCINATING MEDIUM FOR POLITICAL PROPAGANDA THAT REACTIONARY GOVERNMENTS HAVE KNOWN HOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ... WHAT INTERESTS THEM ABOVE ALL IS: INTERNALLY, TO DAMPEN THE CLASS STRUGGLE...; UNCLASSIFIED

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EXTERNALLY, TO CREATE THE ILLUSION THAT THEIR CHAMPIONS

ARE THE NATIONAL PRODUCT OF GENERAL WELL-BEING". HOWEVER,
WHEN SERGIO PRESCRIBED A CURE HE CALLED FOR "OPPOSITION
AGAINST THE INTERVENTION BY IMPERIALISTIC TOTALITARIANISM
ON THE FIELD OF COMPETITION, AGAINST THE USE OF ATHLETES
BY DOGMATISMS AND SYSTEMS THAT POSTURE AS DEFINITIVE...
(AND) AGAINST DEGRADATION OF THE SO-CALLED 'SPORTING
IDEALS' OF PEACE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN MEN AND NATIONS".
JORDAN

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